

Message Text

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SUBJECT: CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY CONDEMNS GREEK DEVELOPMENTS

REF: STRASBOURG A-07 OF JANUARY 22, 1974

1. SUMMARY - DURING DEBATE JANUARY 21 AND 22, CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY OF COUNCIL OF EUROPE FOCUSED IN PLENARY SESSION FOR THE FIRST TIME IN TWO YEARS ON THE SITUATION IN GREECE. DEBATE DOMINATED BY SOCIALIST AND LABOR PARLIAMENTARIANS WHO TOOK AN EXTREMELY CRITICAL POSITION TOWARDS THE GHIZIKIS GOVERNMENT AND PROSPECTS FOR DEMOCRATIC EVOLUTION. FINAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION IS CLEARLY CONDEMNATORY, BUT STRIKES A MORE MODERATE WAIT AND SEE NOTE. END SUMMARY.

2. THE ASSEMBLY REPORT BY LUXEMBOURG SOCIALIST VICTOR ABEN

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PRESENTS A SEEMINGLY BALANCED HISTORICAL APPRECIATION OF GREEK

DEVELOPMENTS. IT SUGGESTS THAT JUDGEMENT BE TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED WITH REGARD TO THE NEW LEADERSHIP TO SEE WHETHER GHIZIKIS CONCEIVES OF HIS MISSION IN TERMS OF MONTHS OR YEARS. REPRESSIVE ACTIONS IN GREECE ARE, NEVERTHELESS, CONDEMNED. IN AN INTERESTING SIDE-LIGHT, ABEN SUGGESTS IT WOULD HELP GREECE IF EUROPEANS PARTIALLY SUPPLANTED PRESENT US MILITARY PRESENCE. FORMER GREEK PRIME MINISTER KARAMANLIS REPORTEDLY READ AND FOUND ABEN REPORT EFFECTIVE AND PRACTICAL.

3. WITH EXCEPTION OF GAULLIST DEPUTY EDMOND NESSLER, WHO VOTED AGAINST RESOLUTION SAYING PRE-1967 SITUATION WAS EVEN WORSE THAN PRESENT ONE ALL PARLIAMENTARIANS EITHER SUPPORTED OR WENT BEYOND ABEN S CRITICISM. THIS WAS GENERALLY TRUE IN THE CASE OF SOCIALISTS AND LABORITES WHO DOMINATED DEBATE. BRITISH LABORITE PETER ARCHER PROPOSED THE ISOLATION OF GREECE SAYING THE PRESSURE OF PUBLIC OPINION WAS INSUFFICIENT TO BRING ABOUT ELECTIONS. DUTCH SOCIALIST PIETER DANKERT FOUND THE PRESENT SITUATION HOPELESS AND SAW ONLY QUESTION AS WHAT TYPE OF DICTATORSHIP WOULD FOLLOW CURRENT ONE. THREE PARLIAMENTARIANS QUESTIONED ADMISSIBILITY OF GREEK MEMBERSHIP IN NATO, AND NORWEGIAN LABORITE AASEN IMPLMED IT SHOULD BE OUSTED.

4. FINAL)ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION CONDEMNS CONTINUED VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS BY ATHENS AND URGES GREEK GOVERNMENT TO LIFT STATE OF EMERGENCY AND RELEASE POLITICAL PRISONERS, ALLOW FREEDOM OF POLITICAL PARTIES, HOLD LOCAL AND NATIONAL ELECTIONS, AND ADOPT A GENUINELY DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTION. RESOLUTION SUPPORTS CONTINUED BARRING OF EC/GREEK ASSOCIATION UNTIL PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY RESTORED AND LOOKS FORWARD TO DAY WHEN CONDITIONS WILL PERMIT GREEK RETURN TO COUNCIL OF EUROPE.

5. REPORT AND ACCOMPANYING RESOLUTION (DOC. 3373) POUCHED WASHINGTON UNDER REF. AIRGRAM. COPY AIRMAILED ATHENS.WOODS

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